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DISPATCH NO. WSSA-2397

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division W

DATE: 5 March 1951

FROM : Chief of Station, [ ]

SUBJECT: GENERAL—

SPECIFIC— Contact with Heinrich MARK and Johannes SIKKAR

Reference: STOC-063 of 14 February 1951

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1. On 13 February 1951, Heinrich MARK, Gomerstavägen 20-II, Elvsjö (Stockholm), a Liberal Democratic member of the Estonian National Council and employee of the Estonian Aid Committee, telephone 11-59-28, and Johannes SIKKAR, Hysabyvägen 12, Aspudden (Stockholm), telephone 45-75-40, a representative of the Small Owners' Party on the same Council, met with [ ] and [ ] in the latter's apartment after arrangements were made by [ ]. As was reported in reference, the meeting was unproductive, since neither of the Estonians was able to offer any suggestions which [ ] felt were of operational value, but there was some discussion of various individuals who might be candidates for the post of operations chief in training personnel for a Redbird project. It is chiefly felt here that the meeting was valuable in that it served to set up a contact with these men which gives us an introduction and method of meeting August REI, and it may serve to help us clarify the confusion which has developed as a result of the lack of coordination between FJCAPE and this office in connection with REI.
2. Subjects discussed several persons whom they felt might make potential operational chiefs for training personnel to be sent into Estonia, including Colonel Axel KRISTIAN, Colonel Johannes RAUDMA, Lieutenant Colonel Alfred LUTS. They pointed out, however, that KRISTIAN may be unsuitable for this position because his known collaboration with the Germans make him a controversial figure among Estonian refugees. Please note that these are the correct spellings of the above names, according to Tiberius.
3. Discussing these individuals with Tiberius, we learned that he personally feels that KRISTIAN is an excellent choice if it is a question only of obtaining an individual who has extensive operating experience, since he had considerable experience in Estonia, and in Finland he organized an unsuccessful operation known as "Operation Erna", which aimed to drop Estonians into their homeland during the Russian occupation. Tiberius points out, however, that KRISTIAN is now working at the French Legation in Stockholm and is in constant contact with the Swedish Intelligence service. Colonel RAUDMA was dismissed by Tiberius as a stupid and completely insignificant personality among the Estonians, while LUTS, who commanded an Estonian regiment under the Germans and fought against the Russians, is the subject of considerable criticism because it is said that he deserted his troops and fled Estonia when defeat was imminent and is opposed to KRISTIAN and SOODLA (see below). Tiberius also said that from these names it was clear that we were collecting information on persons who have close connections with the Estonian

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

FORM NO. 51-28A  
MAR. 1949

74-6-11-147

SECRET

WSSA-2397  
Page 2  
5 March 1951

National Council, and he warned that any persons connected with this Council do not necessarily represent non-controversial figures. Tiberius asserts that the Estonian National Council is an organization which is predominantly left-Socialist in character, and as such it represents somewhat less than half of the politically-important refugees in Sweden, and it does not include conservative political elements of Estonia. These conservative groups are centered around the Estonian National Fund, an organization headed by Mano REBANE, former Foreign Minister of Estonia, Minister to Helsinki and Riga, and editor-in-chief of the largest conservative newspaper in Estonia, Phivaloht. The Estonian National Fund, located at Garvagatan 11, Stockholm, is responsible for the publication of the "Newsletter from Behind the Iron Curtain", and acts chiefly as a propaganda center for all Estonian resistance activities, collaborating with the Estonian National Council in such ventures as offering financial support to representatives who make trips to other countries for matters of interest to the entire Estonian refugee group.

4. Both Tiberius and subjects agreed that Colonel Richard MAAZING was probably not acceptable as an operations chief for our purposes, but MARK and SIKKAR suggested Rudolf VUS, former chief of the Tallinn political police who is now living in Uppsala, Sweden, as a person who has had considerable experience in clandestine activity during the First Russian occupation of Estonia. Tiberius felt that another suitable candidate might be Colonel Johannes SCODLA, former inspector-general of the Estonian troops which fought with the Germans, now located at Osnabrück Training Camp, Germany, as manager of a disabled soldiers' home.

5. Subjects stated that the Estonian National Council was formed in May, 1947, after an amalgamation of the Eesti Demokraatiki Klubi (The Estonian Democratic Club) and the Eesti Koostöö Keskus (The Estonian Cooperative Center). Following is a list of most of the members of the Council: Chairman, August REI; Vice Chairmen, Rudolf PEINO and Johannes KLESMENT.

(Members of the September 1944 government of Estonia)

Secretary-General: Helmut MAAATI, Secretary of State of the September 1944 Government of Estonia; Agrarian members, Tonnis KINT and Johan TOOMAS; Small Owners' Party members: Johannes SIKKAR and Johannes LEITMAN; Central Party members: Heldor THUNISON and Elmar KRIISA; Social Democratic Party members: Johannes MICKALSSON and Ilmar LAABAN; Republican Party members: Erik LAID and Karl RIIST-KIVI; Liberal Democrats: Heinrich MARK and Endel KREP; Radical Democrats: Imant REEBANE and Alfred TONNUS; Estonian National Party members: Nikolai METZLOV, (fnu) TANNER and August ARRAS.

MARK said that the National Council is attempting to serve as the central political organization for Estonian refugees in Sweden.

SECRET

**SECRET**

WSSA-2397  
Page 3  
5 March 1951

6. Information presented in this report is being forwarded primarily so that the names of these persons will be on record, and so that Headquarters and Munich can anticipate some of the difficulties which may result in our attempt to recruit a "non-controversial" figure for Redbird.

Distribution: Wash 4  
MOB 2  
[ ] 2

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